



The Courier

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

March 2017

Court Street United Methodist Church

A Word for Ash Wednesday

Psalm 51:1-5

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgement. Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me.

Ash Wednesday is a day of introspection, reflection, and repentance. Marked with ash, we are reminded that we are sinners in need of forgiveness. Psalm 51, which is traditionally attributed to David, a man known to be close to the heart of God, reflects upon David's own transgressions. In this Psalm David cries out to God "*I am a sinner*" after Nathan rebukes him for his affair with Bathsheba. In this back story to the Psalm, David spies out Bathsheba, begins an affair that leads to a pregnancy, and finally to the death of Bathsheba's husband -- because he is too honorable to sleep with his wife while his troops are at the front. Nathan confronts David with his transgressions, telling a parable of two men, one rich and one poor. The rich man, who has many lambs, takes the poor man's one lamb and slaughters it to put on a feast for his friends. David is furious, and then Nathan says to him: "*You are the man!*" This revelation leads to David's act of repentance, an act of repentance that is expressed through this Psalm. David's cry of repentance is very different from those we're used to seeing on television from politicians and preachers. This is no maudlin confession, which was more show than anything. In this psalm we see an expression of deep anguish and repentance. It also reflects the realization that it is almost impossible to escape from sin's hold on our lives. The 5th verse says it clearly: "*indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me.*" Lest we get caught up in debates about whether sin is a genetic defect or not, the focus is on the reality of our own sinfulness, whatever the cause. We're all tainted. Although the chosen passage ends with the confession that sin conditions one's life, the prayer itself begins with a different confession. In this is the good news. Even as the penitent cries out, seeking God's mercy, the person making this confession roots the request in God's steadfast love. Biblical commentator James Luther Mays writes: *Confession of Sin is already on the way to justification because it is first of all a response to grace. It is the act in which we humans acknowledge what we are before God and what God is for us. We are sinners; God is gracious.* (James Luther Mays, *Psalms: Interpretation Commentary*, WJK, 1994, p. 199). As we begin the Lenten journey, we do so knowing that while we are all sinners in need of mercy and forgiveness, "God is gracious." Without this knowledge we might fall into despair. With this knowledge, we have the confidence to continue the journey, knowing that God's steadfast love is ever present with us.

~ *Pastor Bill Burleigh*



Dear Court Street:

Thank you so much for the donation to our Girls On The Run team. We are all learning a lot and the girls are having a great time. Thank you so much for the donation.

~ Sincerely: *Megan Straw, D. Taylor, Coach Gee, and Coach Alan.*

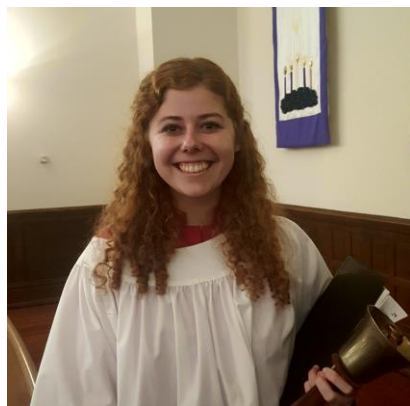


SOUPER BOWL OF CARING OFFERING was a great success. The Missions and Ministry team would like to thank everyone for making donations. We raised \$347.68 for Parkview Community Missions.



VALENTINE'S BRUNCH:

The Missions and Ministry Team would like to thank everyone for participating in and attending Heart Havens' Valentine's Brunch on Sunday February 12th. We raised \$404.00 in donations and had a wonderful time enjoying the delicious food and wonderful music provided by Randall and Karen Speer.



Farewell Chelsea Fox: Sunday, February 26th was Chelsea's last Sunday in the Chancel Choir before her move to NYC. Thank you, Chelsea, for sharing your beautiful voice with us over the last seven years! Good luck and don't be a stranger. ~ *Your Loving Church Family*

(If you missed Sunday's service; go to our website to hear a recording and check out Face Book for our post.)

Chelsea's New Address:

644 Lafayette Ave Apt. 8; Brooklyn, NY 11216



Court Street's Easter Bunny a/k/a Bill Sweeney

EASTER BAGS FOR THE ADULT CARE CENTER: Our 6th annual Easter "Mission" project will kick off on Sunday, March 5th. Sharon Brooks will be in the Bishop Early Hall before and after the Worship Service that day to assist those who would like to take Easter bags to fill for one or more of the participants of the Adult Care Center. Watch for the date and time that the "Easter Bunny" and friends will deliver the bags to the Center in the April issue of the Courier. EVERYONE is welcome to come along!


Welcome Home Carol



Congratulations on your concerts abroad and welcome home to Court Street! As shown above; Carol and Kerry traveled to Paris, France for her concert at Notre Dame Cathedral on February 18th. (top middle) While in France; Carol visited several other old organs including one in a cathedral in Rouen (top right). She accidentally got locked in that cathedral and had to climb 7 foot railings to get out. (no pictures were taken of that! Ha) After leaving France they traveled to the UK to visit family and play another concert at East Sussex National on February 25th. (bottom middle and right) You can follow Carol and her adventures on her FaceBook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/DrCarolWilliamsComposer/>

Birthdays and Anniversaries

March Birthdays	March Anniversaries	April Birthdays
Sharon Brooks March 04	Amy & Rick Pillow Mar 15	Doug Pillow April 01
Tom Coleman March 04	Karen & David Hudnall Mar 20	Eleanor Pillow April 01
Randy Speer March 05	Eva & Reiman Shober Mar 30	Mickenly Kreuziger April 04
Mike McConnell March 09		Harriette Cash April 05
Lori Letchford March 12		Anne Thaxton April 05
Susan Angus March 14		Bill Sweeney April 09
Noemi Lee March 15		Emilia Dimitrova April 10
Amy Pillow March 15		William Draper April 12
Louella Wright March 16		Stuart Jackson April 14
Rick Pillow March 18		Aaron McGlothlin April 20
David Petty March 19		Marcia Thom-Kaley April 23
Bill Puckett March 22		Drew Leazer April 25
Eric Lee March 25		Emma Grace Thom April 25
Stuart Prutch March 26		Jennifer Draper April 26
Owen Selden March 26		Lewis James April 28
Marty Diuguid March 27		
Shanda Rowe March 31		
	April Anniversaries Anne and Bruton Langley April 21 Dona and Jimmy Forehand April 22 Laura and Brent McCraw April 23 Susan and Sam Angus April 24	
		

**Every 2nd Thursday is
Lunch with members living at
Westminster-Canterbury**

Join us on March 9th
Fauber 2 - 11:30am

PRAYER CONCERNS

All Men and Women serving in the Military

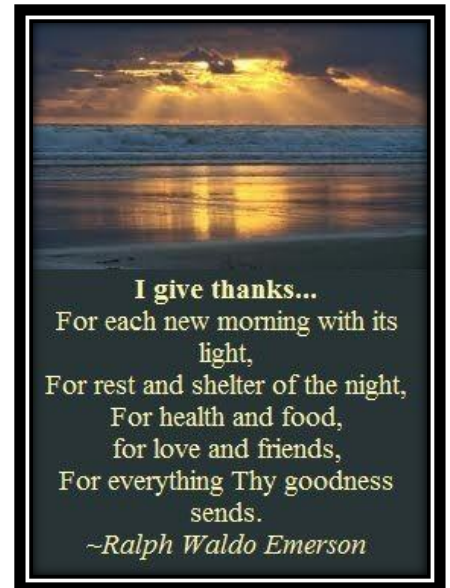
- Robert Shober - The Pentagon, son of *Eva Lee and *Reiman Shober
- Kenny, Laura Kincaid, and children, son of *Bobbi and *Randy Hurst

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
- Midgie Schmidt - Mother to Susan Cobbs
- Sylvia Shuff, Mother-in-Law of *Pastor Bill Burleigh
- *Alicia Speer - 1815 Rivermont Ave #68; Lynchburg, VA 24503
- *Bill 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
- Barbara Wojcik - Mother to Susan McConnell

SHUT-IN

- *Mary Anderson- Runk & Pratt, Liberty Ridge Apt. 143
30 Monica Blvd., Lynchburg, VA 24502
- * Church members



Update on Capital Campaign for church repairs:

Campaign Goal	\$300,000
Promised as of 2/26/17	\$238,276
Balance needed to reach goal	\$61,724
Received to Date	\$169,386
Received since last update	\$3,600
Elevator fund	\$9,228

Court Street United Methodist Church
Report of the Nominations & Leadership Development Committee
Church Officers & Committees - 2017
Elected at Charge Conference November 13, 2016
Church Council (§ 252 Book of Discipline)

Jodi Center	Chair
*Bill Burleigh	Pastor, Nominations & Leadership Development Committee, Chair
Shanda Rowe	Lay Leader
Sherwood Newton	Lay Member of Annual Conference
To Be Elected	Pastor/Staff Relations Committee, Chair
Sherwood Newton	Treasurer
Susan Hall	Financial Secretary
*Randy Hurst	Board of Trustees, Chair
*Sherwood Newton	Finance Committee, Chair
Lillie McDaniel	United Methodist Women, President
David Case Jr	Young Adult Representative
*Bill Burleigh	Missions and Ministry Committee, Chair
Bobbi Hurst	Membership Secretary
*Shanda Rowe	Music Committee, Chair
Randall Speer	Director of Music
David Petty	Endowment
* <i>ex officio</i> , Book of Discipline	

Administrative Committees (as specified in *The Book of Discipline*)

Committee on Nominations and Leadership Development (§ 258.1)

Bill Burleigh	Pastor, Chair	
Shanda Rowe	Lay Leader	
2017	2018	2019
Shanda Rowe	Lillie McDaniel	Sharon Brooks
Anne Langley	Kathy Mason	

Staff/Parish Relations Committee (§ 258.2)

2017	2018	2019
Flo Traywick	Walter Wright	Shanda Rowe
	Bill Puckett	Sherwood Newton

Board of Trustees (§ 258.3)

Randy Hurst (Chair), Mike Russell, Susan Leazer, Susan Cobbs
Charles Thaxton, Dave Petty; Flo Traywick; Lewis James; Sherwood Newton

Trustees Sub-Committees

Property Committee

Charles Thaxton	Co-Chair
Lewis James	Co-Chair
Randy Hurst, Tom Coleman, Walter Wright	At-Large

Kitchen Committee

Lillie McDaniel	Chair
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Committee on Finance (¶ 258.4)

Sherwood Newton	Chair
Bill Burleigh	Pastor
Shanda Rowe	Lay Leader
Jodi Center	Church Council Chair
To be Elected	S/PRC Chair
Sherwood Newton	Treasurer
Bill Burleigh	Missions and Ministry Chair
Susan Hall	Financial Secretary
Randy Hurst	Trustees Representative
Charles Thaxton	Property Co-Chair
David Petty	Endowment Chair

Endowment Committee

David Petty	Chair
Sherwood Newton	Treasurer
Shanda Rowe	Lay Leader
Randy Hurst	Trustees Representative
Jodi Center	Church Council Chair

Ministry and Missions Committee (¶ 258.5)

Bill Burleigh	Coordinator
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Worship Team

Charles and Anne Thaxton, Lillie McDaniel, Pam Jackson, Ann Lis,
Chiz Logan, Ray Pulliam, Megan Straw Communion Stewards

Missions Team

Kathy Mason - Chair, Anne Langley, Harriette Cash, Sharon Brooks, Bobbi Hurst, Sam Franklin, Mary Tyree, Susan Leazer, Nancy Russell

Communications & Media Team

Kerry Bell – Chair, Mike Russell, Randy Hurst, Susan Hall, Kathy Mason

Education Team

Susan Leazer, Pam Jackson, David Case

Library & Church History Team

Nada Sweeney	Historian and Librarian
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Evangelism Team

All

Music Committee (¶ 258.5)

Shanda Rowe	Chair
Randall Speer	Music Director
Dr. Carol Williams	Organist
Jodi Center, George Clark, Kerry Bell, Mark Roper	At-Large

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

The sound track of worship services is now posted on Court Street's website: www.courtstreetumcva.com

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)

