



The Courier

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

December 2018

Court Street United Methodist

CELEBRATING THE BIRTH OF CHRIST

Although we usually associate Christmas with happy celebrations, it's also an appropriate time for serious reflection about our eternal destiny. When people are strong and prosperous, they don't give much thought to the day of their death because they can go where they choose and do what they want, but the day will come when we must each stand before God. The Bible clearly shows us the way to be ready for that day, and Christmas reminds us that the only person who can forgive our sins is Jesus Christ. He died in our place, and his resurrection proved that God accepted his sacrifice as full payment for our sins. Because he's alive, we can know we are forgiven. Even when our bodies are placed in the grave, we will immediately be present with the Lord in heaven. This is our living hope that can never die. Because Jesus came to earth, we can think about Christmas in an entirely new way. The trees remind us of the cross where he died, the gifts of the eternal life he offers us, and the lights of the Light of the World who now lives in our hearts. Considering all that Christ has done for us, we should be filled with gratitude at Christmastime. With all the distractions and traditions of Christmas, we need to be intentional about keeping Jesus the central focus. Here are a few suggestions that may help. Open a Bible to the first chapter of Luke and place it beside the gifts under the tree as a reminder to read the story of Jesus' birth on Christmas morning. Take a few moments to recall how God saved you. Share your testimony; then thank and praise the Lord for who he is and what he's done. Remember that everything you have is from him, even your next breath. Praise Christ for what he's done for you all year long. And most of all, thank him for saving you—not because he had to, but because he chose you. When we take time for serious reflection concerning life, death, and eternity, Christmas becomes more meaningful. So don't let the world distract you from the greatest reason we have for hope. Do something different this year: give Christ the preeminence—and celebrate a truly joyful season.

~ Pastor Bill Burleigh

LOOKING FOR GOOD NEWS? COME TO THE MANGER

To the Members of Court Street United Methodist Church,

We are humbled by the confidence you have placed in us to serve as your Lay Leaders. While we recognize that we may never fully achieve the true qualifications of this assignment, we do believe your call, through Him, empowers us.

The Thanksgiving Eve dinner, and service, was a tremendous event, and a great success. Many thanks to the members who worked to have Court Street serve as host for the meal. It was very heartening to see Pastor Bill's, and others, vision for this collaboration coming to life. As we get to know the folks from All People's, Lighthouse, and Breakthrough, a little better with each occasion, the relationship should strengthen, and His ministry made stronger.

As we looked around the room during the Thanksgiving Eve meal, we saw many people, each with a story to tell. Some they would rather forget, and some they cherish. Just as we serve in this position, we are each called to do something.

We hope you will join us for Sunday School, as we reflect on the many calls given to so many who were only equipped through the vertical relationship with Christ.

~ Sincerely, Debbie and Richard Chaffin



Musical Musings **Anthems for December**



December 2ND ~ First Sunday of Advent

“Springs in the Desert,” by Arthur Jennings (1938-1972)

December 9TH ~ Festival of Lessons and Carols; Second Sunday in Advent

“For Us a Child is Born” by Johann Kuhnau (1660-1722)

Featuring movements of *For Us a Child is Born*, a cantata long thought to be by Johann Sebastian Bach, now believed to have been written by Bach's predecessor at St. Thomas Church in Leipzig, Johann Kuhnau. With string quartet!

December 16th ~ Third Sunday in Advent

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus,” by Leland Sateren (1913-2007)

Sateren, a renowned composer and conductor, served as chairman of the Augsburg College Department of Music from 1950 to 1973, and as director of the Augsburg Choir from 1950 until his retirement in 1979. His work includes more than 400 choral pieces he composed, which are sung in churches around the county. Sateren was passionate about Scandinavian choral music and introduced the work of many Scandinavian composers to American choral directors.

December 23RD ~ Fourth Sunday in Advent

“Magnificat,” by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Ralph Vaughan Williams composed his setting of the **Magnificat** or Song of Mary, one of the three New Testament canticles, in 1932. Vaughan Williams is among the best-known British symphonists, noted for his very wide range of moods, from stormy and impassioned to tranquil, from mysterious to exuberant.

Lunch at Westminster



**Every 2nd Thursday is
Lunch with members living at
Westminster-Canterbury**
Join us on December 13th
Fauber 2 - 11:30am



Ecclesia
SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

The Nutcracker

PERFORMANCES
 DECEMBER 7TH AT 7:00PM
 DECEMBER 14TH AT 7:00PM
 DECEMBER 16TH AT 6:30PM
 DECEMBER 21ST AT 7:00PM

TICKETS
 \$9 ADULTS
 \$7 STUDENTS

ECCLESIA SCHOOL OF THE ARTS
 621 COURT STREET, LYNCHBURG

OUR THEATER IS LOCATED ON THE TOP FLOOR AND IS NOT HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE.

PURCHASE TICKETS AT ECCLESIAARTS.COM
 WITH QUESTIONS, CALL 434.818.1844

LYNCHBURG SYMPHONY YOUTH ORCHESTRA
& JUNIOR STRINGS

WITH SPECIAL GUESTS FROM THE
LYNCHBURG CITY SCHOOLS ELEMENTARY HONORS STRINGS

PRESENTS

SOUNDS — OF THE — SEASON

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16TH, 2018 • 3:00PM
- ACADEMY CENTER OF THE ARTS -

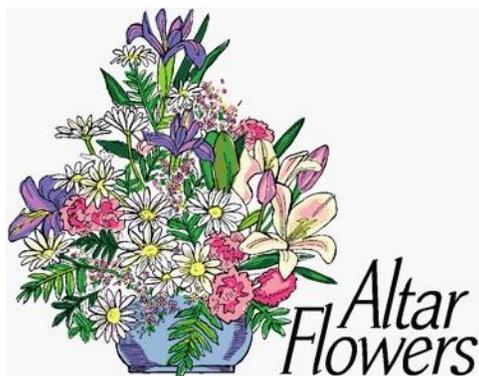
TICKETS: \$16 - ADULTS & \$10 - STUDENTS
 AVAILABLE ONLINE OR AT THE ACADEMY BOX OFFICE
ACADEMYCENTER.ORG/EVENT/SOUNDS-OF-THE-SEASON/

MR. BRUCE HABITZRUTHER, *Conductor*
 MRS. ELLEN HABITZRUTHER, *Assistant Director & Manager*

LSYO

WWW.LYNCHBURGYOUTHORCHESTRA.COM

2019 Altar Flower Dates are now Available!



Please contact the church office or sign up on the form in the Bishop Early Hall if you would like to purchase Altar Flowers in memory or honor of a loved one. Sundays in 2019:

1/6, 1/13, 1/20, 1/27, 2/3, 2/10, 2/17, 2/24, 3/3, 3/10, 3/17, 3/24

4/7, 4/14, 4/28, 5/5, 5/12, 5/19, 5/26, 6/2, 6/9, 6/16, 6/23

7/7, 7/14, 7/21, 7/28, 8/4, 8/11, 8/18, 8/25, 9/1, 9/8, 9/15, 9/22

10/6, 10/13, 10/20, 10/27, 11/3, 11/10, 11/17, 11/24, 12/01, 12/08, 12/15

The cost is \$73.00.

You may reserve your Sunday now and be reminded to pay closer to the date or pay ahead and add your check to the form. Thank you in advance for adding beautiful fresh flowers to the altar for worship services.

~ The Worship Committee

DECEMBER'S ADULT BIBLE STUDY CLASS ~ SUNDAYS ~ 9:45AM

December 2: **“Love and Devotion”**, Lewis Johnson
 December 9: **“Choose to Love and Serve God”**, Richard Chaffin
 December 16: **“Love and Worship God”**, Richard Chaffin
 December 23: **“Jesus: God’s Loving Promise”**, Richard Chaffin
 December 30” **“Modeling God’s Love”**, Megan Straw

Birthdays and Anniversaries

December Birthdays	December Anniversaries	January Birthdays
Hunter Alan Tyree December 02	Shelley & Bill Burleigh Dec. 16	Eddie Letchford January 01
Milton West December 03	Bobbi & Randy Hurst Dec. 23	David Hudnall January 03
Brennalynn Diuguid December 05	Eleanor & Doug Pillow Dec. 24	Doris Lee Spriggs January 06
Phil Ripley December 05		Bobby Brown January 08
Nancy Russell December 06	January Anniversaries	Patsy Wilkinson January 13
Elizabeth Larkin December 07	Brenda & Andy Whitehead Jan 04	William Eric Sweeney January 17
Adam Bryant December 09	Cheryl & Milton West Jan 25	Eric Johnson January 19
Jeff Thaxton December 11		Patti Montgomery January 19
Suzanne Baker December 12		Shelley Burleigh January 20
Susan Cobbs December 12		Dolly Clingempeel January 25
Lisa Thaxton December 14		
Randy Hurst December 20		
Douglas Thom December 28		
Ray Pulliam December 30		
Anne Langley December 31		

PRAYER CONCERNS

All Men and Women serving in the Military

- Robert Shober – Fort Bragg, NC, son of *Eva Lee and *Reiman Shober
- Kenny Kincaid and children, son of *Bobbi and *Randy Hurst

SICK

- *Dolly Clingempeel – 2231 Woodcrest Drive, Lynchburg, VA 24503
- *Patsy Cundiff – 1559 Lexington Drive, Lynchburg, VA 24503
- Waylon and Emberly Evans – NICU at UVA
- newborns of Beth Watts and Steven Evans, cousins of *Sharon Brooks
- *Christopher Lilley - 408 Blackford Street #2, Lynchburg, VA 24504
- *Ann & Phil Ripley – 60 Jill Alison Circle, Ormond Beach, FL 32176
- *Eva Shober - 172 Shober Lane, Monroe, VA 24574
- Sylvia Shuff - Mother-in-Law of *Pastor Bill Burleigh
- *Alicia Speer – 1815 Rivermont Ave #68, Lynchburg, VA 24503

* Church members

Advent Prayer

God of Love,
 Your son, Jesus, is Your
 greatest gift to us.
 He is a sign of Your love.
 Help us walk in that love
 during the weeks of Advent,
 as we wait and prepare
 for His coming.
 We pray in the name of
 Jesus, our Saviour.
 Amen.



Update on Capital Campaign for church repairs:

Campaign Goal	\$300,000
Promised as of 11/25/18	\$246,481
Balance needed to reach goal	\$53,519
Received to Date	\$199,816
Received since last update	\$650.00
Elevator fund	\$10,328

December 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 Adult Sunday School 9:45am Worship 11am Breakthrough Worship Service ~ 7:00pm	3	4	5 Bible Study 6pm	6	7 AGLOW 9am Refectory Nutcracker 7PM - ESA	8 All Peoples Worship Service 6pm
9 Adult Sunday School 9:45am Worship 11am LSO – Home for the Holidays 4PM Breakthrough Worship Service ~ 7:00pm	10 All People's Ascend 6pm	11	12 Bible Study 7pm	13 Lunch at Westminster 11:30am Fauber 2 Ask front desk for directions	14 Nutcracker 7PM - ESA	15 All Peoples Worship Service 6pm
16 Adult Sunday School 9:45am Worship 11am LSYO – Sounds of the Season 3PM Nutcracker 6:30PM - ESA	17 All People's Ascend 6pm	18 LSYO Practice 4pm LSO Practice 7pm	19 Bible Study 7pm	20	21 Nutcracker 7PM - ESA	22 All Peoples Worship Service 6pm
23 Adult Sunday School 9:45am Worship 11am Breakthrough Worship Service ~ 7:00pm	24 Christmas Eve Service 4PM Office Closed	25 Merry Christmas!! Office Closed	26 Bible Study 7pm	27 LSO Practice 7PM	28	29
30 Adult Sunday School 9:45am Worship 11am 5TH SUNDAY Breakthrough Worship Service ~ 7:00pm	31 ALL PEOPLES TO HOST SERVICE AND POTLUCK		<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> BIBLE STUDY CONTINUES ON WEDNESDAYS @ 7pm. 1ST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH ~ FELLOWSHIP WILL START WITH A COVERED DISH (POTLUCK) AT 6PM FOLLOWED BY BIBLE STUDY. </div>			

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.courtstreetmethodist.com

EMAIL: 621courtstumc@gmail.com

PHONE: 434-845-3427

Please contact the church office at:
621courtstumc@gmail.com or (434) 845-3427 on or before Wednesdays to have
events and notices posted on the church website.
(The newsletter, The Courier, is also on the website)

