



The Courier

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

January 2019

Court Street United Methodist Church

A NEW YEAR REFLECTION

Psalm 90 is a perfect psalm for the end of the year. For one thing, this psalm includes the word "year" more than any other psalm. In the Hebrew text of Psalm 90, the word translated as "year" (*shena*) appears seven times. No other psalm includes *shena* more than twice. But, apart from the frequency of the word "year" in Psalm 90, its themes speak to us as we wrap up another calendar year. It begins by noting that God has been our home "*through all the generations,*" from year to year to year (90:1). Even "*before the mountains were born,*" God is God (90:2). God is always there for us. Though we can make a big deal out of the change of years, from God's perspective, "*a thousand years are as a passing day*" (90:4). This fact reminds us of God's unmatched majesty. It also suggests that all the hype surrounding New Year's doesn't really matter in the long run. On New Year's Eve, the big crystal ball will fall in Times Square, but what will really be different, other than the number of the year? Psalm 90 acknowledges the difficulties of life: "*Seventy years are given to us! Some even live to eighty. But even the best years are filled with pain and trouble; soon they disappear, and we fly away*" (90:10). Now that could sound pretty depressing. But, the fact that the Bible doesn't "make nice" commends to us its truthfulness. Yes, indeed, even when life is fine for us, others are suffering. We may have plenty to eat, but millions throughout the world are without food today. And we might feel as if we're going to live forever, but, in fact, our days are numbered. Does this mean we should get all down in the mouth? Hardly. Verse 12 offers this prayer to the Lord: "*Teach us to realize the brevity of life, so that we may grow in wisdom.*" The Hebrew of this verse could be translated literally, "*Teach us to count our days, so we might gain a heart of wisdom.*" How does acknowledging the brevity of life help us to be wise? Well, for one thing, when we realize that we have only so many hours on earth, we'll be eager to use them well, rather than frittering them away with empty activities. Accepting the limits of our lives will help us to use well every minute God gives us. Psalm 90 underscores the fact that fulfillment in life isn't a matter of how much we have or how much we accomplish. Rather, what gives life purpose and meaning is a living relationship with the living God: "*Satisfy us each morning with your unfailing love, so we may sing for joy to the end of our lives*" (90:14). I can't think of a better thought with which to end the year and begin a new one. If we live each day in the satisfaction of God's love, we will be empowered to live for him, to love him through serving our neighbors. We won't fret about the passing of the years but will accept the gift of each day as a new opportunity for love and service.

~ *Pastor Bill Burleigh*

**THE BAD NEWS IS, TIME FLIES.
THE GOOD NEWS IS, YOU'RE THE PILOT.**



Musical Musings

Solos and Anthems for January



January 6TH ~ Epiphany Sunday

“The Kings” By Peter Cornelius (1824-1874)

Soloist - Benjamin Stogner, baritone

A Christmas carol by the German composer Peter Cornelius. He set "Die Könige" for a vocal soloist, accompanied by Philip Nicolai's hymn "Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern" ("How Brightly Shines the Morning Star"), which he erroneously thought was an Epiphany hymn. In fact, it is an Advent hymn in which the morning star is an allegory for the arrival of Jesus, not the Star of Bethlehem. In the original Cornelius setting, the accompaniment was played on a piano but the English organist Ivor Atkins later arranged the accompaniment for choir, with the choir singing the words of the original hymn. The German words have been translated into English by H.N. Bate. The carol describes the visit of the Biblical Magi to the Infant Jesus during the Nativity and is also used as an Epiphany anthem.

“The People That Walked in Darkness”, from *Messiah* By George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

Soloist - Benjamin Stogner, baritone

Messiah is an English-language oratorio composed in 1741 by George Frideric Handel, with a scriptural text compiled by Charles Jennens from the King James Bible, and from the Coverdale Psalter, the version of the *Psalms* included with the *Book of Common Prayer*. "The people that walked in darkness" is taken from Isaiah 9:2 and is in Part I of *Messiah* that begins with the prophecy of the Messiah and his virgin birth by several prophets.

January 13TH ~ First Sunday After the Epiphany

“Give God, the Father, Praise” by Heinrich Schutz (1585-1672)

Soloist - Kris Blacktorn, soprano

Heinrich Schütz was a German composer and organist, generally regarded as the most important German composer before Johann Sebastian Bach, as well as one of the most important composers of the 17th century. He is commemorated as a musician in the Calendar of Saints of some North American Lutheran churches on 28 July with Johann Sebastian Bach and George Frideric Handel.

“Wade in the Water” arr. H. T. Burleigh (1866-1949)

Soloist - Kris Blacktorn, soprano

Henry Thacker "Harry" Burleigh was an African-American classical composer, arranger, and professional singer known for his baritone voice. The first black composer instrumental in developing characteristically American music, Burleigh made black music available to classically trained artists both by introducing them to spirituals and by arranging them in a more classical form. "**Wade in the Water**" is a Negro spiritual first published in *New Jubilee Songs*. The song relates to both the Old and New Testaments. The verses reflect the Israelites' escape out of Egypt as found in Exodus 14.

January 20TH ~ Second Sunday After the Epiphany

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring By J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

"Jesu, Joy Of Man's Desiring," is one of Bach's best-loved works. This piece is a perennial favourite at weddings when the bridal party enters. Both this piece's original choral version and the famous piano transcription by the English pianist Dame Myra Hess (1890-1965) are equally well known. Hess's transcription was published in 1926 for piano solo and in 1934 for piano duet, but the transcription itself has since been arranged for various instruments and combinations. FUN FACTS: The Beach Boys 1979 song "Lady Lynda," which was a #6 hit in the UK, is based on the melody of the song, but not the words. The British instrumental studio group Apollo 100 scored a 1972 #6 hit in the US with "Joy," a fast-paced instrumental version of this piece.

January 27TH ~ Third Sunday After the Epiphany

“The Spirit of the Lord Is Upon Me” By Elgar (1872-1958)

Sir Edward Elgar's "The Spirit of the Lord" is probably the best known choral setting of this beautiful text. It is a movement from his oratorio *The Apostles*, Op. 49 (1903), a narrative choral work depicting the calling of the apostles and their reactions to Jesus' teaching, crucifixion and ascension. Sir Edward is probably best known for his Pomp and Circumstance marches written between 1903 and 1930. When Sir Arthur Sullivan died in 1900, many in England considered Elgar to be the successor of Sullivan as "first musician in the land." He received numerous honors during his lifetime including being named Master of the King's Musick in 1924. He held nine honorary doctorates including Yale University and the University of Pittsburgh.

MISSIONS – BEING THE HANDS AND FEET OF JESUS

B. B. Shavers and pastor Bill at James Crossing

(News and Advance Article published online December 24th)



All the good little boys and girls living off Greenfield Drive got a special boost of holiday cheer Monday with some toys, games and food from the James Crossing Santa Claus and his helpers. The community center at James Crossing Apartments tends to be bustling with youthful energy during programs for nonprofit Self Help Obtaining Positive Opportunities (SHOPO) Nation. There, Ronald “BB” Shavers and other volunteers provide a positive, safe space for kids living in the neighborhood both before and after school. “The one thing we’re teaching all these kids is working together and discipline,” he said.

On Monday while kids tried their hands at games of chess, a few different churches and ministries dropped off bags full of toys at the center. As adults unloaded the goodies, the kids started to get a little restless and their eyes shone a little brighter. After saying what they were thankful for and an inspirational pep talk, they each got a chance for a one-on-one chat with Santa (Shavers) in his fortress of toys, then picked out a few to fill a bag and take home.

Octavia Clay said her 6-year-old son Tyreik picked out a remote-controlled car and a couple of other toys Monday that’ll complement the scooter with light-up wheels she bought him for Christmas. A SHOPO Nation regular, she said he looks forward every day to the breakfast and fun at the community center next door to their apartment building. “Every day when he wakes up, he’s going straight to the window and look down here to see if he can see Mr. BB’s car,” she said. “He’s like, ‘Momma, I’ve gotta get dressed so I can go to the center!’... The kids love it.”

Besides the gifts, volunteers handed out donated bags of food and snacks for kids to take home with them. Shavers traveled out into the Lynchburg with a handful of little helpers to distribute leftover bags of food and gifts into different neighborhoods in the city — what he termed “being a blessing.”

Madison Heights Elementary School Angel Tree

Court Street and All Peoples sponsored 17 “little angels” for Madison Heights Elementary School. A big THANK YOU to all of the members who participated and to Susan Leazer for hearing God’s call and putting his plan into action. Without the help of the church; the school would not have had enough supporters to give a good Christmas to all of the students in need.

Red Kettle Bell Ringers

K-Mart may be closed, but that didn’t stop Court Street from ringing the bell on Saturday December 8th from 10am till 8pm – Our new location – Krogers on Wards Road. A big THANK YOU to: Susan, Braeden and Taylor Hall, Sherwood Newton, Anne Langley, Kenny Kincaid, Sharon Brooks, Susan Cobbs, Harriette Cash, Bobbi and Randy Hurst for giving your time on a cold December day! Here are a few pictures of our ringers:



Lunch at Westminster



**Every 2nd Thursday is
Lunch with members living at
Westminster-Canterbury**
Join us on January 10th
Fauber 2 - 11:30am



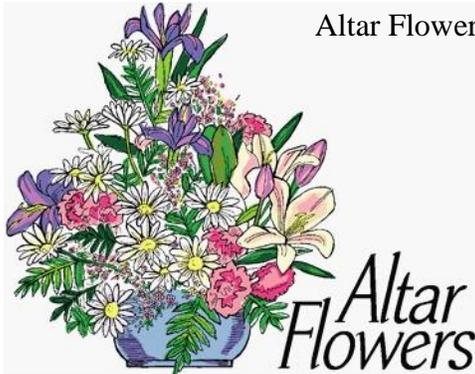
2019 Altar Flower Dates are now Available!

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



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

January 6: **"Hold Fast to God's Love"**, Richard Chaffin
January 13: **"Submit to God in Love"**, Lewis Johnson
January 20: **"Submit to God in Christ"**, Richard Chaffin
January 27: **"Devote All to Christ"**, Richard Chaffin

January Paint Night with Ecclesia:

Friday, January 11th ~ 6:30pm-8:30pm

\$10 pre-registered

\$12 at the door

All ages

(children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult)

Sign up at: <https://ecclesiaarts.com/paint-night/>



Birthdays and Anniversaries

January Birthdays	January Anniversaries	February Birthdays
Eddie Letchford January 01	Brenda & Andy Whitehead Jan 04	Lauren Hudnall Knapp February 02
David Hudnall January 03	Cheryl & Milton West Jan 25	Mary Tyree February 02
Doris Lee Spriggs January 06		Kenneth Bagshaw February 13
Bobby Brown January 08	February Anniversaries	Lewis Averett February 15
Patsy Wilkinson January 13		Dottie Diuguid February 17
William Eric Sweeney January 17	Kathy & Robert Draper Feb 09	Deanna Hester February 17
Eric Johnson January 19	Robin & Irby Hudson Feb 12	Sarah Leazer Johnson February 18
Patti Montgomery January 19	GiGi and John Sweeney Feb 21	Reiman Shober February 22
Shelley Burleigh January 20		Brenda Whitehead February 22
Dolly Clingempeel January 25		James Blankenship February 23
		Bill Burleigh February 24
		Bobbi Hurst February 24
		John Spencer February 24

PRAYER CONCERNS

All Men and Women serving in the Military

- Travis Dean Burleigh – Lackland AFB, TX, son of Shelly and Rev. Bill Burleigh
- Robert Shober – Fort Bragg, NC, son of *Eva Lee and *Reiman Shober
- Kenny Kincaid and children, son of *Bobbi and *Randy Hurst

SICK (Church members*)

- *George Clark – P.O. Box 3077, Lynchburg, VA 24503
- *Dolly Clingempeel – 2231 Woodcrest Drive, Lynchburg, VA 24503
- *Patsy Cundiff – 1559 Lexington Drive, Lynchburg, VA 24503
- Susan Dwyer – sister of Rev. Bill Burleigh
- 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
- *Alicia Speer – 1815 Rivermont Ave #68, Lynchburg, VA 24503
- * *Church members*

Update on Capital Campaign for church repairs:

Campaign Goal	\$300,000
Promised as of 12/23/18	\$246,681
Balance needed to reach goal	\$53,319
Received to Date	\$200,666
Received since last update	\$850.00
Elevator fund	\$10,328

A New Year's Prayer

May God make your year a happy one!
 Not by shielding you from all sorrows and pain,
 But by strengthening you to bear it, as it comes;
 Not by making your path easy,
 But by making you sturdy to travel any path;
 Not by taking hardships from you,
 But by taking fear from your heart;
 Not by granting you unbroken sunshine,
 But by keeping your face bright,
 even in the shadows;
 Not by making your life always pleasant,
 But by showing you
 when people and their causes need you most,
 and by making you anxious to be there to help.
 God's love, peace, hope and joy to you
 for the year ahead.

January 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
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.						
6 Adult Sunday School 9:45am Worship 11am Breakthrough Worship Service ~ 7:00pm	7 ACC Bocce Ball Tournament with Heritage Green 1PM All People's Ascend 6pm	8 LSYO Practice 4pm	9 Bible Study 7pm	10 Lunch at Westminster 11:30am Fauber 2 Trustees meeting 2pm	11 Paint Night with ESA 6:30pm Register online ecclesiaarts.com	12 All Peoples Worship Service 6pm
13 Adult Sunday School 9:45am Worship 11am Breakthrough Worship Service ~ 7:00pm	14 All People's Ascend 6pm	15 LSYO Practice 4pm	16 Finance Committee 2pm Bible Study 7pm	17	18 ACC Devotions with pastor Bill 10:30am Bender~ Murray Wedding rehearsal and dinner 5pm	19 Bender ~ Murray Wedding 3pm All Peoples Worship Service 6pm
20 Adult Sunday School 9:45am Worship 11am Lennon~Norman wedding rehearsal 2pm Breakthrough Worship Service ~ 7:00pm	21 Lennon~Norman Wedding 4:30pm All People's Ascend 6pm	22 LSYO Practice 4pm	23 Bible Study 7pm	24	25	26 All Peoples Worship Service 6pm
27 Adult Sunday School 9:45am Worship 11am Breakthrough Worship Service ~ 7:00pm	28 ACC Bocce Ball Tournament with Heritage Green 1PM All People's Ascend 6pm	29 LSYO Practice 4pm	30 Bible Study 7pm	31	FEBRUARY 1ST and 2ND All Peoples Conference 6pm - 10pm	

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: 621courtstume@gmail.com

PHONE: 434-845-3427

Please contact the church office at:
621courtstume@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)

